

REMARKS

The allowability of claims 4, 7, 8, 10-12, and 16-19 is acknowledged appreciatively.

Nevertheless, the rejection of the other claims under 35 USC 102 for anticipation by the applicant-cited Hytonen, et al. patent is traversed by the original terms of claim 1. The syntax of claim 1 may not sparkle, but Festo-like considerations discourage editing and, upon careful reading, it is seen to include a flow guidance element 16, "... which flow guidance element ... provides an annular flow channel between the outer wall and the flow guidance element." The annular flow channel is 17 in Fig. 2b of the application. There is none in Fig. 2 of the patent. Therefore, the rejection is traversed.

As described in MPEP 2111.03, the transitional phrase "characterized" is now recognized as synonymous with "comprising." Therefore, grammatical correction to -- wherein -- is made in the other claims without Festo-like implications.

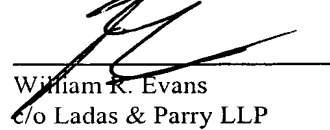
If it were thought to convert the rejection for anticipation into one under 35 USC 103 for obviousness, this would require a teaching in the patent toward the different structure of claim 1. However, as there is none, such conversion cannot be made.

The object of the patent is to provide a liquor spray gun construction having higher durability and longer lifetime. The object is achieved by increasing the surface in contact with the black liquor to reduce wear per area or circumferential length. The surface in contact with the black liquor is increased with heat transfer elements like fins or grooves inside the spray tube.

The claimed invention teaches decreasing the cross-sectional area of the flow channel by making it annular, which increases the flow rate. The patent gives not the slightest hint about that.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'WR Evans', is written over a horizontal line.

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